STAR OF MYSORE

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DATE: 24TH APRIL 2025 | TIME: 10:30 AM

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Wednesday 23rd April 2025

UoM Ph.D awardees

Mysuru, Apr. 23- **C.M. Prathap** has been awarded Ph.D in Gandhian Studies by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'Mysuru, Mandya, Hassana mattu Chamarajanagara Jillegala Mele Gandhijiyavara Prabhava' submitted under the guidance of Dr. S.T. Ramachandra.

N. Pradeep Raju has been awarded Ph.D in Earth Science by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'Identification of Groundwater Recharge Sites and Suitable Recharge Structures for Bandalli Watershed, Hanur taluk, Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka, India, Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques' submitted under the guidance of Dr. D. Nagaraju.

S.R. Sudeep has been awarded Ph.D in Earth Science by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'Integrated Hydrogeological Studies of Beedanahalli Watershed, T. Narasipur Taluk, Mysuru district, Karnataka, India, Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques' submitted under the guidance of Dr. D. Nagaraju.

N. Harish has been awarded Ph.D in Kannada by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'K. Govindaraju Avara Bhaduku-Bareha' submitted under the guidance of Dr. K. Thimmaiah.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

What is a museum, really? A building that houses objects? A temple of knowledge? A vault of the past? Or a theatre of the present? The answers are as complex as the institution's foundational contradiction. Museums claim to preserve and protect, but they also curate and construct. The question of publicness is key. For most Indians, a visit to the museum is still a rare event — more school trip than weekend ritual.

A museum's power lies not just in its artefacts, but in its audience. We must ask: what kind of history do we want told? Who gets to do the telling? Can we, as citizens in a democracy, demand more nuance, more truth?

The politics of display: India is undergoing a museum-building renaissance. Across the country, state and private actors are investing in ambitious cultural institutions — from the redevelopment of the National Museum in New Delhi to regional centres of memory and art. Yet, beneath the sleek architecture and nation-branding optimism lies an urgent question: what is being built, by whom, and for whom? What is being remembered, and what is being erased?

According to the Ministry of Culture, over 100 new experiential museums are in the pipeline, although details about their themes, timelines, and locations remain largely unspecified. The National Museum is set to be relocated as a part of the Central Vista redevelopment project, but there is no public clarity yet on the fate of its artefacts — one of the largest and most significant collections in the country.

Museums have always shaped public memory. As the State increasingly centralises control over historical narrative, they risk becoming not a space of learning but of persuasion. The challenge, then, is not just to fill galleries with new stories, but to reimagine the very idea of the institution.

India has over 1,000 museums — most of them public, and many still operating within rigid, object-led frameworks. But a few are reimagining what they can be.

The public has a role to play here, too. We must demand transparency, challenge silence, and see ourselves not as visitors, but as participants. We have the right — and the responsibility — to ask: whose history is this? And what are we being asked to forget? The museum must help us remember. Not just what was, but what could still be. *—D. Aastha in The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Ticket mistake earns man a $1M lottery prize

Michigan: A Michigan man said a store cashier's mistake turned out to be lucky when the scratch-off lottery ticket he didn't ask for turned out to be a 1 million dollar winner.

The 45-year-old man from Van Buren County told Michigan Lottery officials he asked for a specific scratch-off lottery ticket at the Speedway gas station on South Kalamazoo Street in Paw Paw, but the clerk instead handed him a Major Cashword ticket.

"I play Cashword tickets occasionally, but purchasing this ticket was a total fluke. I asked the cashier for a different game, and she mistakenly handed me this Major Cashword ticket instead. When she realized she gave me the wrong ticket, she offered to give me the game I'd asked for, but I told her I would just keep the Major Cashword ticket instead. The next morning, I scratched the barcode and my wife scanned the ticket on her lottery app. When 1 million dollars came up on the screen, I felt like I couldn't breathe! I thought it was some sort of prank at first," the player said.

2,461 take cold weather swim to break world record

Ústí nad Labem: A total 2,461 bathers braved the frigid waters of the Czech Republic's second-largest lake to break a world record for the largest polar bear dip.

Czech freediver David Vencl organized the March 1 attempt at Most Lake, where the water was measured at below 50 degrees. Vencl previously held the record for the longest swim under ice -- breath held (no fins, no diving suit), which he set in 2021 and only lost in March of this year.

Guinness World Records confirmed the bathers took the record from 1,799 cold weather swimmers who took the plunge at the XIIth Ice Swimmers Convention in Poland in 2015.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Kidney disease is not rare. As per the recent data, 1 in every 10 adults suffer from chronic kidney disease across the globe.

By Dr. Vipin Kaverappa P T - Consultant – Nephrology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Kasturba Gandhi remembered

Mysuru, Apr. 23- The Political Science Department of St. Philomena's College, Mysuru, commemorated Kasturba Gandhi's birth anniversary on Apr. 11.

The event took place at the College Indoor Stadium and was organised under the theme 'Mahatma Behind Mahatma.'

Dr. Ravi J.D. Saldanha, Principal and Rev. Fr. Jnanapragasam, graced the occasion.

In tribute to Kasturba Gandhi's Nobel legacy, the Department of Political Science honoured the women house-keeping workers recognising their dedication and service. Head of Department Prof. C. Anand and Assistant Professor Kudure Ellappa were present. About 120 students attended the event.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **98.31 feet**	Today's level **2,265.70 feet**	Today's level **2,832.23 feet**
Last year's level **82.23 feet**	Last year's level **2,261.24 feet**	Last year's level **2,825.20 feet**
Yesterday's level **98.76 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,265.85 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,832.27 feet**
Today's Inflow **85 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **160 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **109 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **3,835 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **800 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

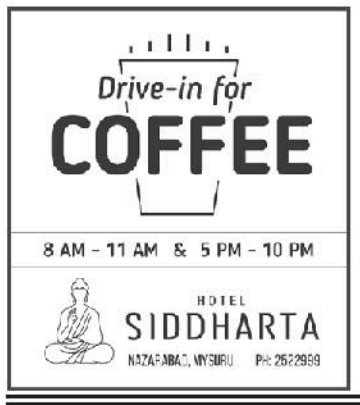
- *Peacocks have spurs on their feet that are primarily used to fight with other males.*
- *Peafowl are omnivorous, they eat many types of plants, flower petals, seeds, insects and small reptiles such as lizards.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

"Is your husband in?
asked the caller.
"Yes, he is in," replied the wife.
"Good. Then perhaps I'll get the money he owes me."
"Don't be too hopeful," smiled the wife knowingly. "If my husband had any money he wouldn't be in."

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 85.12
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 114.09
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.18
1 Euro	= Rs. 98.14



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OUR EVENING DAILY

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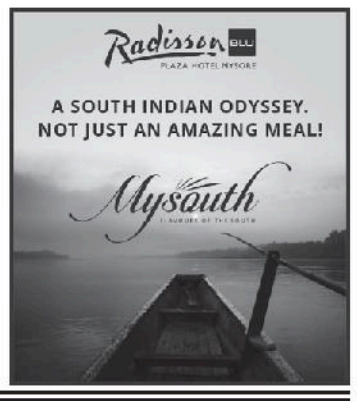


Pahalgam Terror Attack

Four suspects identified, photographs released

- The Resistance Front (TRF) claims responsibility for attacks
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah visits Srinagar, Pahalgam
- PM Modi cuts short Saudi Arabia visit, returns to New Delhi
- 12 tourists from Mysuru safe; efforts on to bring them back

Photograph of the suspected terrorists released by security agencies, this morning.

New Delhi/ Bengaluru, Apr. 23 (Agencies)- A day after the horrifying terror attack at Baisaran meadows in Jammu and Kashmir that claimed the lives of 28 tourists — including three from Karnataka — the security agencies released photographs of four out of the six suspected terrorists responsible for the carnage.

The attack, which occurred yesterday afternoon, is the deadliest in the valley since the 2019 Pulwama bombing. It is described as the deadliest since the abrogation of Article 370.

According to initial reports, the victims include two foreign nationals — one from the United Arab Emirates and another from Nepal — and two local residents. The names of the identified suspects, as released by security agencies, are Abu Talha, Aasif Fauzi and Suleiman Shah. The other name has been given as Moosa. All are believed to be operatives of The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy outfit of the banned terror organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

Reports indicate that around five to six terrorists, dressed in camouflage and traditional kurta-pyjamas, emerged from the dense pine forests encircling the valley and opened fire using AK-47 rifles.

Investigators have identified Saifullah Kasuri, also known as Khalid, a senior LeT operative, as the main orchestrator of the terror attack.

Security forces have initiated an extensive counter-terror operation, deploying helicopters to locate the perpetrators, who are believed to have used the forest terrain to escape.

(See SUSPECTS on page 6)

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-6 for Abracadabra titled ***"Go tell Modi" says terrorist to Pallavi. What will Modi do?*** —Ed

NEWS BRIEFS

Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0

The District Outreach Programme under Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 will be conducted by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office, Mysuru, on Apr. 28 from 9 am onwards at Nanjangud Industries Association Building, Next to Fire Brigade Office, KIADB Industrial Area, Nanjangud, Mysore, M/s. City Club, M.C. Road, Mandya & Muthiah Beverage & Confectionery Pvt. Ltd. (MBCPL) Plot No. 146, Badanaguppe, Kellamballi Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar. Stakeholders like PF Members, Pensioners, Employers etc. may attend the programme for awareness, queries and information. For details, call PRO on Ph: 0821-2599200/222 or e-mail: ro.mysore@epfindia.gov.in or visit Social Media Platform (@epfomysore) of the Regional Office, Mysuru, according to a press release.

Discourse

Chinmaya Mission is conducting a discourse on ramcharitamanas in Kannada by swamini Kashikananda at its premises, Gokulam 3rd Stage from 6 to 7 pm from Apr. 21 to 27. For more details, contact Mob: 79753-98211, according to a press release from the Chinmaya Mission Secretary Ramprasad.

IPL 2025

TODAY'S MATCH APRIL 23

SRH Vs **MI**

Rajiv Gandhi Intl. Cricket Stadium, Hyderabad, **7.30 pm**

TOMORROW'S MATCH APRIL 24

RCB Vs **RR**

M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru, **7.30 pm**

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

LSG 156/6 (20 overs)
LOST TO
DC 161/2 (17.5 overs)

Live telecast on:
Star Sports Network & JioHotstar

Removal of Janivara at CET Centres:

Havyaka Mahamandala, Mysuru zone for strict action

Members of Havyaka Mahamandala, Mysuru zone submitting a memorandum at DC's office in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (GA&BS)- Members of Havyaka Mahamandala, Mysuru zone, submitted a memorandum at the Deputy Commissioner's office in the city yesterday, in protest against the incident of students belonging to Brahmin community, forced to remove janivara (sacred thread) while appearing for Common Entrance Test (CET) in the State recently.

The delegation of Havyaka Mahamandala, Mysuru zone leaders led by Akhila Karnataka Brahmins Mahasabha (AKBMS) Vice-president N. Srikantakumar, stated that, the removal of janivara portrays anti-Hindu mindset, especially the expression of hatred and insult towards the community. The State Government has claimed to have initiated action against a few persons in this regard, but the authorities who directed the officials to act in such a way against the CET candidates, should be made public. Besides, the action should be taken against such persons.

The Indian Constitution espouses equality and the practice of wearing janivara, mangalya and kumkuma is a religious culture. The vested interests who show sectarian hatred towards Brahmins should understand, even Brahmins too have Constitutional rights. The students have been harassed and subjected to insult during the exam, said Srikantakumar.

If the State Government initiates stringent action, no other officials in the future will resort to harass the students in the name of caste, the delegation observed.

Shankarnarayan Shastri, Vice-president of Havyaka Mahamandala, Mysuru zone, Rakesh Bhat, General Secretary, Sampa Krishnamurthy, Organisational Secretary, senior leaders Betha Krishna Bhat, Krishna Hegde, Girija Shankar, Vishweshwar Bhat, Nagaraj Hegde, Hiriyanna, Srinivas Prasad, Raghavendra, Sanjay Prasanna, Narayan Sharma, Kokkada Venkataramana Bhat, Srikala, Sujatha, Hemalatha, Radha Muthalik, Anupama, Balakrishna, Ganapathi, Sridhar Hegde, Vikas, Ganesh and others were present.

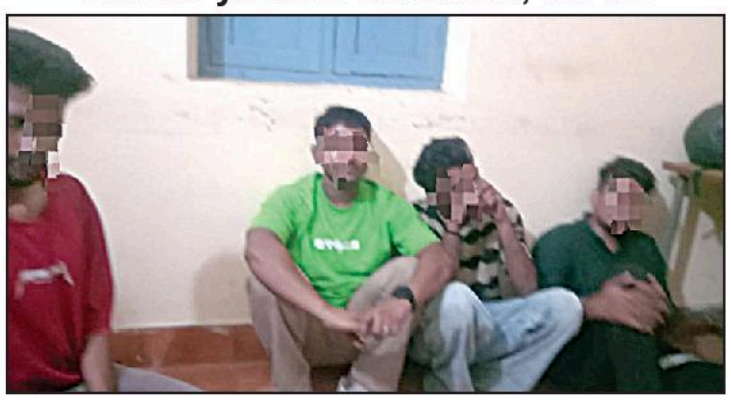
Sack the staff

Meanwhile, All India Unorganised Priests Federation has demanded for sacking those staff who were responsible for removing the janivara of the students.

Santosh Kumar S. Deshik, District President of Priests Federation told media persons at Patrakarthara Bhavana, that those responsible for the incident should be identified and action be taken against them.

The statement of Bollywood director Anurag Kashyap to urinate on Brahmins is also condemnable and he should tender apology in public, demanded Deshik.

Indecent behaviour at Chamundi Hill: Kerala youths detained, let off



Mysuru, Apr. 23 (PM&KS)- Krishnaraja (KR) Police detained a group of youths from Kerala for allegedly behaving indecently on the steps leading to the top of the Hill. They were released later.

On Monday, when KR Police were on their regular patrolling, they saw a group of youths behaving indecently by removing their shirt. They questioned them during which it came to know that they were from Kerala.

The Police, who took the youths into custody, brought them to the Police Station, warned them against behaving indecently in public places.

A petty case was registered against them, before letting them off.

DCP inspects traffic system near Sub-Urban Bus Stand

Holds meeting with KSRTC officials

DCP K.S. Sundar Raj holding a meeting with KSRTC officers.

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (MTY&KS)- Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP – Crime and Traffic) K.S. Sundar Raj inspected the traffic management system near Sub-Urban Bus Stand in city and also held a meeting with KSRTC officials at the Office of the KSRTC Divisional Controller (Rural) at Bannimantap yesterday.

During the meeting, the KSRTC officials apprised the DCP about traffic problems when the buses enter and exit the Bus Stand due to haphazard parking of autorickshaws which was hampering the smooth flow of traffic.

The DCP then instructed the Traffic Police to ensure that autorickshaws stop and park at designated places besides asking the Police to initiate action against those drivers who violate rules.

DCP Sundar Raj suggested KSRTC officials to instruct drivers to follow traffic rules, wear uniform while on duty, stop the bus at designated bus stops, not to stop buses on roads with high traffic to issue tickets and make alternate arrangements for KSRTC buses to park during night times as buses are being parked on Government Guest House Road.

Meanwhile, KSRTC Divisional Controller (Rural) Srinivas, who spoke, said that KSRTC bus drivers have already been instructed to follow traffic rules, stop the bus at designated bus stops only and also ensure that buses do not cause traffic issues. He also told the DCP that the drivers have been instructed to compulsorily wear uniform while on duty.

Rein in online gaming, betting apps: Ex-Corporator SBM Manju

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (GA&BS)- Former Corporator SBM Manju has urged the State Government to rein in online gaming and betting racket, as many irrespective of age have fallen into the debt trap and taking the extreme step of ending their lives.

Addressing media persons at Patrakarthara Bhavana in the city yesterday, Manju said, many influenced by the popular film actors endorsing gaming and betting apps, are losing money in cricket betting. So, those promoting the illegal activities by appearing in advertisements should be booked under a criminal case. On the other hand, the casinos are paying 30% commission to encourage gambling, following which the number of people losing money in a flash, is also on the rise.

By deploying Information Technology, the Government should block such apps, following the path of former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, who in his tenure had banned single digit lottery, playwin and other forms of gambling. The State should take a cue from Telangana Government that has banned betting apps, demanded SBM Manju.

JD(S) City Working President Prakash Priyadarshan, leaders Dinesh Gowda, Narasimhe Gowda, Ramakrishne Gowda and others were present.

Obituary

Gowrishankar

Nanjangud, Apr. 23- Gowrishankar (51), Assistant Teacher at B. Kongalli School in the taluk, passed away at a private hospital in Mysuru yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Yalandur this afternoon.

VOICE OF THE READER

Harrowing parking experience in Mysuru Sub-Urban Bus Stand

Sir,

I would like to share with readers and the authorities my harrowing experience at the parking lot of the Mysuru Sub-Urban Bus Stand.

Recently, I had to park my two-wheeler in the basement of the Sub-Urban Bus Stand, in a facility named 'Bhairava Parking,' if I'm not mistaken. As I took my bike down the ramp, I was appalled by the condition of the area.

There were no lights, making it extremely difficult for my eyes to adjust to the darkness. The parking lot was nearly full, with barely enough space left for 3-4 more two-wheelers.

Shockingly, there was not a single staff member to assist or guide vehicle owners.

After a distressing 10 minutes, I somehow managed to find a spot to park. The place was also damp and the air was heavy with the smell of leaking petrol.

The worst part came the next day when I returned to retrieve my bike, only to discover that it was nowhere near where I had parked it. When I approached the in-charge person, he rudely brushed me off, saying he didn't know anything about it.

His attitude was extremely unprofessional and disrespectful — not just to me, but to several other people, including senior citizens, who were visibly upset by his behaviour.

Eventually, I found my vehicle tightly sandwiched between two other bikes, with yet another vehicle placed diagonally across it. It was nearly impossible to take it out. With no assistance and poor lighting, I was forced to spend another 30 minutes shifting bikes around just to free mine.

I would like to ask the KSRTC authorities: What exactly are we paying the parking fees for? I have never seen such pathetic parking management, not even at free parking zones.

I strongly urge the KSRTC authorities to revoke the current parking tender or take strict and appropriate action against this facility. Commuters deserve a smooth and safe parking experience, not one filled with inconvenience, neglect and hostility.

—Dr. Suhail Azam Khan
Mysuru 29.3.2025

Concerts at Ganabharathi

Mysuru, Apr. 23- Ganabharathi, Mysuru, has organised the following two independent music concerts under Taruna Bharati programme to encourage young and upcoming artistes tomorrow (Apr. 24) at Veene Seshanna Bhavana in Kuvempunagar:

6 pm to 7.15 pm: Flute concert by Shreya Bharath; **7.15 pm to 8.30 pm:** Vocal concert by Suhas Murali. They will be accompanied by Vid. Tumkur Yashasvi on violin and Vid. Shubang Samaga on mridanga.

Shreya is daughter of Vidya Bharath and Dr. Bharath, A 10th std. student, Shreya has shown interest in flute at an early age and presently is the student of Vid. J.A. Jayanth of Chennai. She has won prizes in competition conducted by Sun Academy, HCL Karnataka Quest and many more. She has given solo performances at Chennai Rasika Ranjani Sabha, Rama Mandira etc. She has also performed with her Guru in Krishna Ganasabha, Puttaparthi, ISKON and other platforms.

Suhas is a student of 3rd year Computer Science Engineer and

Shreya *Suhas*

son of Kavita and Murali Srinivasan. Suhas learnt Karnatak music from Vidu. Bhamini Nagaraj and is pursuing advanced music from Vid. Ramakrishna Murthy and doing Vidwat in Karnatak classical music. He has also learnt keyboard, flute and western music. He is the recipient of scholarship of Karnataka Sangeeta Nrithya Academy and is a B grade artiste of AIR.

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WALK-IN-INTERVIEW ON 25-04-2025

A WALK-IN-INTERVIEW is conducted for the following posts at "Mahajana Education Society (R)office", Jayalakshmipuram, Mysuru - 570012.Candidates should produce Curriculum Vitae and a Xerox copy of all marks card and other relevant testimonials along with the Application. Candidates are required to be present Half an Hour before the timings mentioned below for Registration and verification of documents.

WALK- IN-INTERVIEW TIME : 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sl. No.	Subject	No. of Post	Post Vacant	Eligibility
01.	Superintendent	01	Full Time	Any degree with Kannada, English Typing with a knowledge of Ms. Office is must Preference is given for the candidate who have Experience in the degree college
02.	Accountant	01	Full Time	1. B.Com / BBM / M.Com Graduate. 2. Knowledge of Tally 9.0 with ERP is must. 3. Kannada & English Typing with a knowledge of Ms. Office is must. Preference is given for the candidate who have Experience in the degree college
03.	Office Assistant	01	Full Time	Any degree with Kannada, English Typing with a knowledge of Ms. Office is must

For more details, Contact : 77957 86694.

Sd/- (Dr. B.R. Jayakumari) Principal
Sd/- (Dr. T. Vijayalakshmi Muralidhar) Hon. Secretary
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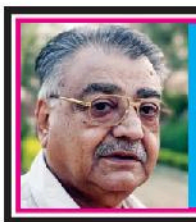
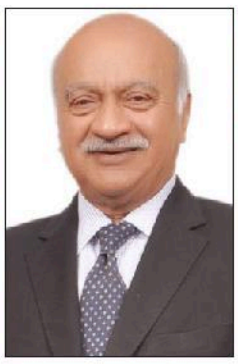


Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

"Go tell Modi" says terrorist to Pallavi. What will Modi do?

Narendra Modi



Ravi Joshi

Manjunatha Rao and his wife Pallavi

Himanshi Narwal grieving beside her husband's body

Yesterday, April 22, 2025, at 2.30 pm the Pahalgam in Kashmir Valley reverberated with the sounds of terrorist gunshots killing 28 tourists — two of them foreigners and the rest Hindus. One of those killed was from Karnataka, a Shivamogga realtor, Manjunatha Rao. He was holidaying with his wife Pallavi and son Abhijit Rao. According to Pallavi, when she pleaded with the terrorists to kill her and her son also the terrorists told her: "Go tell Modi" and spared them.

Yesterday's terrorist attack has belied the rhetoric of the apologists of terrorism that terrorism has no religion. However, yesterday non-Muslims were identified and killed. This exposes the fact that terrorism in India has religion and Hindus are its target.

According to TV reports there were protests from Bihar to Jammu against this terror attack. But what about other parts of India? Like in the past, after a few days this terror attack too will be forgotten while the security too will become lax.

Some TV channels reported that our forces are preparing for retribution, whatever it means! The usual bombasts under such situations are always heard — perpetrators of this evil will not be spared. India will rise to resolve to punish and defeat the patrons and perpetrators of this terrorist attack.

Yes, The Resistance Front, a shadow group of the banned Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba terror group has claimed responsibility, according to reports. Now India should catch them if it can and justify its power to protect the life and liberty of its citizens.

> **"Ravi Joshi is of the opinion that these sleeper cells must be neutralised and the J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah must take responsibility for it. No doubt it is a challenge to Omar Abdullah but must accept the challenge. The Resistance Front (TRF) terrorists must be identified and restrained, he said."**

In fact, a few months back our National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Kumar Doval had warned Pakistan that if terrorist attack of the 26/11 kind happens the consequences would be deadly, or to that effect. Now is the time for him to prove what he had said was not a mere bravado but a statement of determination. Let us wait for the show of that military prowess.

This morning, I was watching a few TV channels after browsing newspapers. The impression I got was that probably our Security Forces — Rashtriya Rifles, Army and the local Police etc., — would try to catch the 4-6 terrorists who, it was believed, were involved in this attack. Even if they catch one it would help find the mastermind and the handlers of these terrorists. Thereafter it would help plan the retaliation — its timing and nature of attack.

I saw a senior resident of Mysuru, Ravi Joshi, a retired RAW Officer and former Joint Secretary at the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, who occasionally writes for *Star of Mysore,* on TV-18 Kannada Channel this morning participating in a panel discussion, on this terror attack. According to him this attack must be from a new terrorist organisation that came after Article 370 was abrogated. A Resistance Front supported by Pakistan and the ISI. Its aim is to debilitate, destabilise Kashmir and thus make it a bankrupt State, he said adding that in the bargain Pakistan itself is getting bankrupt. Now, after the yesterday's attack India is getting international sympathy and support. Therefore, Ravi Joshi says, we must wait and watch for India's response.

There was another gentleman in the same panel Lt. Col (Retd.) V.M. Nayak. He thinks Pahalgam was a soft target for terrorists as it is a tourist paradise. This is a new kind of terrorism where civilians, tourists, are targeted. And the attack was directed towards non-Muslims, specially Hindus. This could be to create sensation. He also mentioned of the Pakistan Army Chief's recent speech criticising Hinduism and Hindus as possible cause for the attack.

Surprisingly he was unhappy about the news media giving emphasis to the targeting of non-Muslims on the basis of religion which, according to him, may cause social disturbance. But in matter such as terrorism TRUTH so patent and revealing must be told so that the people of the religion so targeted may take necessary precaution to save themselves.

Ravi Joshi made a very significant point when he said that without local support it would be impossible to cross the border. These are the sleeper cells who support the terrorist infiltration from Pakistan. He felt one of the reasons for the revival of terrorism could be the policy of the government in allowing about 84,000 outsiders to migrate to Kashmir. May be.

Ravi Joshi is of the opinion that these sleeper cells must be neutralised and the J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah must take responsibility for it. No doubt it is a challenge to Omar Abdullah but must accept the challenge. The Resistance Front (TRF) terrorists must be identified and restrained, he said.

It is unfortunate that Hindus in India are taken for granted since independence. Now in some of the States like J&K, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Hindus have become soft target for attack.

There is an opinion that there was a security-lapse on the part of the intelligence service, Rashtriya Rifles, Army and the local Police. Could be, because when the location is a heavy tourist centre, it is natural for the authorities to ensure heavy security in the area. Lapses in providing needed security made it easy for the terrorists to target Pahalgam for this attack.

Now let us wait for India's move in retaliation. Let this not become another case like 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai under Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Prime Minister.

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Four suspects identified

(Continued from page 3)

Security tightened, Amit Shah visits Baisaran

In the aftermath of the attack, security measures have been heightened across Jammu and Kashmir. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who arrived in Srinagar yesterday evening, chaired high-level security meetings with top Army officials and intelligence agencies.

This morning, he paid tributes to the victims and met grieving families. Later, Shah visited Baisaran meadows, the site of the attack, to review the ongoing investigation and assess the ground situation.

PM Modi cuts short foreign visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was on a diplomatic visit to Saudi Arabia, cut short his trip and returned to New Delhi early this morning.

On arrival at Palam Airport, he immediately met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval to discuss the situation. Modi is scheduled to chair a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) at 6 pm today.

Interestingly, the Boeing 777 carrying the Prime Minister did not fly over Pakistani airspace on its return journey. Instead, it charted a direct route over the Arabian Sea, entered Indian airspace via Gujarat, and flew north to Delhi.

Minister in Srinagar

The Government of Karnataka has deputed Labour Minister Santosh Lad to oversee the welfare and evacuation of stranded Kannadigas in Jammu and Kashmir. Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* Minister Lad confirmed that two bodies will be flown to Karnataka tonight — one to Bengaluru and another to Shivamogga. He also stated that 12 tourists from Mysuru are safe.

Special flights

According to a release from the Karnataka Chief Minister's Office, two separate flights will carry the mortal remains and survivors this evening. Flight 6E 3015/6E 5252, departing from Kashmir at 3 pm, will bring the remains of Bharat Bhushan along with survivors Sujatha, Havish, Preetham Chennaveerappa Narasim, K.J. Chandra Shekar, N. Srihari Prasad, M. Deepu and M.S. Rahul to Bengaluru. Flights 6E 3013/6E 5269/6E 7731 will carry the remains of Manjunath Rao to Shivamogga, via New Delhi and Bengaluru, with arrival expected around 6 pm. The confirmation is awaiting regarding the repatriation of Madhusudhan Somisetty, another victim from Bengaluru, who lost his life in the attack.

Cybercrime Helpline 1930 upgraded with a web bot

DG&IGP Alok Mohan inaugurating the upgraded Cybercrime Helpline 1930 in Bengaluru yesterday as DGP Malini Krishnamurthy, ADGP (Training) Alok Kumar and others look on. Picture right shows 1930 staff attending to cybercrime complaint calls.

Bengaluru, Apr. 23 (BCT)- In response to the growing menace of online financial frauds across the country, the Karnataka Police Department has enhanced its Cybercrime Helpline 1930 by introducing an upgraded web bot system (Voice-Guided WebBOT system) and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) facility, aimed at improving public access to emergency cybercrime support.

This was announced yesterday by Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) Alok Mohan during the formal inauguration of the upgraded facility at the ADGP Communication, Logistics & Modernisation (CL&M) office, Corner House, M.G. Road, Bengaluru.

4.34 lakh calls in 2025

He said that Karnataka's Cybercrime Helpline 1930 has witnessed a massive surge in call volumes — from 1.30 lakh calls in 2022 to 8.26 lakh in 2024. In just the first quarter of 2025 (January to March), the Helpline has already received 4.34 lakh calls.

The DGP noted that the ever-increasing volume of online financial fraud was affecting citizens daily and required quicker reporting mechanisms. The upgraded 1930 Helpline and the newly integrated web bot now enable citizens to register complaints more promptly, especially within the crucial "golden hour" following a cybercrime, which is often key to successfully freezing stolen funds.

Difficulty in reporting cyber fraud

Alok Mohan added that Karnataka's Emergency Response Support System's Public Safety Answering Point has been set up within the premises of the ADGP, Communication, Transport and Modernisation office. The 1930 Helpline centre operates in tandem with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP), where all complaints related to financial fraud are officially registered.

However, the dramatic rise in the number of calls has also resulted in an increased number of call drops. A substantial portion of these calls were related to status updates or general grievances, which inadvertently delayed the registration of fresh complaints. As all Helpline staff were actively handling calls, many citizens attempting to file new complaints, particularly senior citizens, were unable to reach the Helpline in time.

"This delay has made it difficult to report frauds within the golden hour, often resulting in the successful transfer of stolen funds into fraudsters' accounts before banks could act," Mohan explained.

To address this critical issue, the Police Department has introduced an IVR system to efficiently categorise calls into four major types: financial fraud complaints, non-financial cybercrime complaints (like WhatsApp/Facebook hacks or impersonation), status-related queries and other grievances. This classification allows the system to prioritise those who are trying to file fresh complaints.

Voice-Guided WebBOT

Further improving accessibility, a Voice-Guided WebBOT system has been integrated into the Helpline process. If a complainant cannot reach a staff member directly or voluntarily disconnects the call due to long wait times, an SMS with a link to the web bot is automatically sent.

The citizen can then submit the complaint details online via the web bot and the Helpline staff later enter the information into the NCRP manually. "This method ensures that new complaints are not missed, even when our lines are busy," said the DGP, highlighting that the initiative will reduce call drop rates while maintaining efficient complaint registration.

The inauguration event was attended by several senior officials, including ADGP (Law and Order) Hitendra, ADGP (Administration) Soumendu Mukherjee, ADGP (Training) Alok Kumar, ADGP for Karnataka State Fire and Emergency Services Nanjundaswamy, and DGP Malini Krishnamurthy, among others.

New features in 1930 Helpline

As part of the Cybercrime Helpline 1930 upgrade, several advanced features have been introduced to streamline complaint registration and improve response times:

- The existing telephone infrastructure has been upgraded to SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) lines, significantly enhancing the Helpline's capacity to handle the rising volume of complaint calls.
- A multi-language Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system is now in place, enabling callers to choose their preferred language — Kannada, English or Hindi — for communication.
- When all staff are engaged and lines are busy, the IVR system now informs callers of their position in the queue, reducing confusion and ensuring transparency.
- In the case of non-financial cybercrime complaints — such as WhatsApp or Facebook account hacks and impersonation — an SMS containing a link to self-resolution resources is automatically sent to the complainant.
- A dedicated system has been established to collect, categorise and store data related to both fraud victims and suspected fraudsters. This structured data will support investigators in tracking cybercrime trends and identifying repeat offenders.
- The Cybercrime Helpline 1930 has been upgraded with state-of-the-art software and infrastructure at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore. The goal is to offer faster and more effective assistance to victims of financial fraud.
- The Helpline will operate 24x7, reaffirming its commitment to delivering uninterrupted support to citizens affected by cybercrime.

Pahalgam terror attack: Candle light protest held in city

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (SPN&VNS)- Members of Krishnaraja Yuva Balaga held a candle light protest against terror attack that killed 28 tourists at Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir here yesterday.

The members arrived at Chamundipuram Circle wearing black bands around their arms and offered condolence to the deceased including Shivamogga's Manjunath Rao and Bharat Bhushan and Madhusudan Somisetty of Bengaluru.

Speaking on the occasion, former Corporator M.V. Ramprasad condemned the inhumane attack on the tourists and demanded the Central Government to initiate stringent action against those responsible.

K.R. Bank President Basavaraj Basappa, Nataraj, BJP leader Rakesh Bhat, JD(S) leader S. Prakash Priyadarshan, Jeevadhara Blood Bank Director Girish and others were present.

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Dr. R. Balasubramaniam

A South Indian in Delhi:

Lost in Translation, Geography and Paneer

Being a South Indian in Delhi is an experience that oscillates between amusement and exasperation. From the moment I stepped into the city a few years ago, I remember being greeted with the warm hospitality of North Indians — by which I mean their generous confusion about my origins.

To them, I am a *Madrasi,* because, of course, every South Indian must be from Madras (current Chennai, but then they may not be knowing this either). The idea that there exist four distinct South Indian States, each with its own language, cuisine and culture, is simply too much to process. In their mental map, India consists of Delhi, Punjab, UP, and a vast, undifferentiated landmass labelled *Madras* below the Vindhyas.

The Hindi Struggle: A Sincere Attempt, A Spectacular Failure

Determined to blend in, I take my Hindi lessons seriously. I carefully craft my sentences, try to ensure my grammar is intact, and attempt the right intonations. But the moment I open my mouth; my South Indian roots are exposed. My *zh* sounds (from Tamil and Malayalam) creep in where they shouldn't, my carefully rehearsed *ka* sounds mysteriously become *ga,* and my effort to say *Shukriya* earns me a bemused stare.

North Indians are nothing if not accommodating, though. Instead of acknowledging my painstaking efforts, they switch to English at the first sign of my accent, as though to save us both from embarrassment.

Sometimes, in their enthusiasm, they slow down their Hindi and start using hand gestures as if I am a tourist in my own country. The irony, of course, is that they fully expect me to understand Punjabi without effort.

The Great North Indian Culinary Repetition

In Delhi, every meal is a predictable cycle of *paneer, gobi, aloo, palak* and if the chef is feeling particularly adventurous, *matar* (peas). A typical meal order goes something like this:

Me: *"What's available today?"*

Waiter: *"Sir, we have paneer butter masala, matar paneer, shahi paneer, gobi paratha and aloo sabzi."*

Me: *"Anything without paneer or aloo?"*

Waiter (confused): *"Sir, paneer bhurji?"*

At this point, I resign myself to my fate and mentally prepare for another round of *paneer* overload. It is as though the entire culinary imagination of Delhi revolves around three vegetables and one block of dairy.

On days when I crave South Indian food, I am met with strange approximations — *idlis* that resemble hockey pucks, *sambhar* that is suspiciously sweet, and *dosa* stuffed with, you guessed it, *paneer!* And if I dare ask for curd rice, I am given a bowl of thick *dahi* with raw rice floating in it like a failed science experiment.

The Government Office Snack Marathon

Government offices in Delhi are a universe of their own, with two things in endless supply — discussions and snacks. No matter the time of day, any official meeting is punctuated by a tray carrying the holy trinity of Delhi snacks:

1. Samosa — An oversized, greasy triangle of potato and peas, served with an obligatory green chutney.

2. Paneer Cutlet — Because why should *paneer* restrict itself to curries? Flatten it, deep-fry it, and serve it with pride.

3. Watery Tea — A liquid that resembles tea in colour but lacks both strength and conviction. It is served in tiny cups and refilled constantly, ensuring that by the end of the meeting, I have consumed enough to float away.

This snack ritual is so deeply ingrained that any attempt to refuse is met with suspicion. *"Aapko chai pasand nahi hai kya?"* they ask, as if rejecting weak tea is a sign of moral failing. To fit in, I drink it, all while longing for a strong South Indian *kaapi.*

Geography Lessons That Go Nowhere

One of the most exhausting aspects of being a South Indian in Delhi is trying to explain that Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh are not interchangeable. The moment I say I am from Karnataka, the listener tunes out, nods politely, and asks, *"Oh, so you're from Madras?"*

Attempts to educate them are met with disinterest. In their minds, South India is just a single, vague entity with coconut trees, classical dancers, and a perpetual filter coffee aroma in the air. Mentioning Karnataka only evokes one response: *"Oh, Bangalore! IT hub!"* Kerala is *"where we go for honeymoon and Ayurveda,"* Andhra is *"where Bahubali happened,"* and Tamil Nadu is, well, *"Madras."*

The Never-Ending Cold War with the Delhi Winter

If there is one thing a South Indian in Delhi is not built for, it is the cold. The Delhi winter arrives with a vengeance, and I find myself buried under layers of sweaters, shawls, and beanies, while Delhiites stroll around in light jackets, sipping tea like it's a breezy autumn day. My resistance to cold is met with mockery. *"Yeh tohkuchbhi nahi hai,"* they say, as I shiver uncontrollably in temperatures that would never be tolerated down South.

Conclusion

Being a South Indian in Delhi means embracing repetition — whether it is explaining that I am not from Madras, struggling through Hindi with my unmistakable accent, or eating yet another *paneer*-based meal. But despite the culinary monotony, the endless government office snacks, and the geographical ignorance, Delhi has its own charm. It is loud, chaotic, and always in a hurry — but at least it is generous in its hospitality, its endless snacks, and, of course, its *paneer !*

[Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, the Founder of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement, is currently the Member-HR at the Capacity Building Commission of the Government of India, New Delhi.]

JSS Law College students to present paper on Consumer Movement

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (BCT)- Two first-year LLB students from JSS Law College, Mysuru, M. Nikhil and N. Khushi, will be participating in a National Seminar organised by the Centre for Consumer Studies at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi, on April 24 and 25. They will present a research paper titled "India's Consumer Movement is in ICU."

Paper synopsis

The title "India's Consumer Movement is in ICU" is not meant to sensationalise but to highlight the serious crisis confronting the country's Consumer Movement. It reflects the authors' intent to draw attention to the challenges at hand.

The paper traces the trajectory of the Consumer Movement before and after the Consumer Protection Act (CPA) of 1986. The Act initially led to a boom in consumer activism, with several NGOs emerging across the country. Though efforts were made to bring them under one umbrella, they met with limited success.

In its early years, Consumer

M. Nikhil

N. Khushi

Forums received media attention for landmark rulings. However, over time, they began functioning like Civil Courts, losing their edge. Meanwhile, the CPA empowered consumers to challenge issues beyond individual grievances — such as corruption in the Public Distribution System (PDS) — ensuring access to subsidised goods for the poor.

Economic liberalisation and market competition further strengthened consumer choice. Some NGOs promoted the idea of citizens as "masters, not servants" while engaging with Government services.

The IT revolution and mobile penetration led to Direct Benefit Transfers, which curbed PDS corruption to an extent, though many entitlements remain hard to access. Meanwhile, the rise of e-commerce has triggered a spike in consumer fraud.

The 1986 Act was replaced in 2019 with a more comprehensive version, but its implementation has fallen short due to persistent inefficiencies in Consumer Commissions.

Compounding this is the Movement's failure to attract younger generations to take over from its pioneers. The paper explores key strategies to revive the Consumer Movement and restore its relevance in the current era.

Tree felling on Hyder Ali Road

Deputy Commissioner orders probe, forms three-member committee

G. Lakshmikanth Reddy

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (MTY&BCT)- Public outrage continues to surge following the felling of 40 mature trees along Hyder Ali Road in Mysuru, prompting Deputy Commissioner (DC) G. Lakshmikanth Reddy to order an official investigation. A three-member Fact-Finding Committee has been constituted to probe the incident.

As per the directive issued on Apr. 21, Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) Commissioner A.N. Raghunandan will chair the panel. Hunsur Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Fayaz has been appointed as a Member while District Urban Development Cell Executive Engineer Manjunath will serve as the Secretary.

The trees were felled near the Superintendent of Police (SP) Office as part of road expansion project, triggering widespread fury among residents, environmentalists and civic groups. Daily protests have erupted at the site, with demonstrators condemning the destruction of crucial green cover in the name of development.

The Committee will conduct a thorough inquiry to assess whether the widening project truly necessitated the cutting of 40 trees and whether proper permissions were secured in accordance with forest and environmental regulations. The investigation will also review the project's urgency, legal compliance and adherence to ecological norms. The Committee has been tasked with submitting a detailed report within seven days, presenting its findings and recommendations to the DC.

Emotions are running high, with a massive candlelight vigil held at the felling site drawing hundreds of residents demanding accountability.

Adding further weight to the matter, State Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has launched a parallel inquiry under the Chief Conservator of Forests, indicating the Government's recognition of the seriousness of the public's concerns.

Raghulal & Co. leads replanting effort on once green Hyder Ali Road

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (BLU&BCT)- Ten days have passed since the large-scale felling of 40 mature trees on Mysuru's Hyder Ali Road — a move that has left the once tree-lined stretch barren and exposed.

Yet, the Forest Department has not initiated the planting of replacement saplings, drawing sharp criticism from the public. Stepping in to fill the void, Raghulal & Co, city's leading pharmacy, has taken the lead in replanting efforts, reaffirming its commitment to environmental preservation.

The road, once celebrated for its lush canopy and refreshing breeze, now stands stark and stripped of its natural beauty. With the shade gone, pedestrians are left vulnerable to harsh sun and the charm that once defined the route has vanished.

Public anger continues to simmer, with daily protests erupting on Hyder Ali Road. Demonstrators have condemned the inaction of the Forest Department and the Mysuru City Corporation, accusing them of anti-environmental policies and demanding accountability.

Among the striking images of protest was an environmentalist who drew attention with a placard mounted on a scooter that read: "What is the use of accumulating wealth if there is no clean air, water, or food?"— a poignant reminder of what's at stake.

Despite repeated calls for action, authorities have failed to begin replanting. In contrast, Raghulal & Co — renowned for having planted thousands of trees over the years — has once again stepped forward.

They have planted saplings near the Karnataka Police Academy compound and installed protective metal tree guards to ensure their survival, setting an example of environmental responsibility amid official apathy.

World Earth Day: Green activists clear concrete around trees near DC Office

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (BLU&BCT)- In a powerful act of environmental stewardship, members of the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Hasiru Sene observed World Earth Day yesterday by removing cement plaster, concrete blocks and asphalt laid around the bases of trees near the Deputy Commissioner's Office at Siddarthanagar in city.

The effort was aimed at freeing the roots from suffocation, allowing better access to soil, water and air. Activists highlighted that this not only promotes healthier tree growth but also serves as a strong message to the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC): Leave a 2 to 3-ft. radius around tree trunks during road asphalting or concrete laying to protect urban greenery.

With monsoon season approaching, the initiative emphasised the urgency of removing such obstructions within 15 days to ensure rainwater reaches roots and enhances their sustainability.

They warned that if MCC fails to act, they themselves will begin clearing cement and asphalt from around trees every Sunday between 6.30 am and 8.30 am. The call was also extended to all Mysureans to replicate similar efforts across the city.

Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Hasiru Sene State Secretary Manju Kiran urged citizens to actively preserve the environment, especially protecting long-standing trees.

The movement saw participation of farmer leaders Siddalingapura Mohan Kumar, Galigarahundi and Venkatesh, members of the Siddalingapura Yuva Shakthi Pade Karthik, Kiran, Shivu, Malinga, Abhishek, Shashank, Nagendra, and Hinkal Mohan. Environmental activists from Parisara Balaga, S. Shylajesha, Leela Shivakumar and Kaveramma were also present.

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Four from Mysuru shine in UPSC exams

Farmer's daughter, IPS trainee, IFS Officer, M.Tech graduate clear India's toughest examination

A.C. Preethi

Bhanuprakash

G. Rashmi

V. Vikas

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (SBD&VNS)– The results of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Examination 2024 were announced yesterday, bringing pride to Mysuru as four individuals with Mysuru roots emerged successful, securing top ranks and reaffirming the city's growing academic distinction.

Farmer's daughter secures 263rd rank

A.C. Preethi from Saligrama taluk has secured an impressive 263rd rank and is aspiring for the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). Daughter of Channabasappa and Nethravathi, a farming couple, Preethi's journey from rural classrooms to the national merit list is a testament to perseverance and resilience.

Preethi completed her primary and secondary education in Kannada medium at a Government School. She later pursued her Pre-University education at the Government PU College for Girls, K.R. Nagar.

She earned her B.Sc in Agriculture from V.C. Farm, Mandya, followed by M.Sc from the prestigious Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Preethi recalled how her ambition shifted from agricultural science to civil services during a heartfelt discussion with her father.

"I joined a Hyderabad-based coaching centre for Anthropology, my optional subject. After two unsuccessful attempts, it was my father's unwavering encouragement that led me to attempt a third time. This result is the fruit of that belief and persistence," she shared.

IPS trainee scores 523rd rank

Bhanuprakash, currently undergoing IPS training at the National Police Academy, Hyderabad, has secured the 523rd rank this year. His UPSC journey began in 2022 when he secured the 448th rank.

Determined to join the IAS, he reappeared for the exam in 2023 and secured the 600th rank, followed by his latest achievement in 2024. "Clearing the UPSC for the third time while fulfilling the duties of my training has given me immense satisfaction," said Bhanuprakash.

He is the son of Jayaramegowda, a farmer, and Girijamma, an Anganwadi teacher in Mysuru. He completed his primary education in Belawadi Government School and continued from 6th to 12th standard at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Hondarabalu, Chamarajanagar.

He went on to complete his MBBS at the Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences and earned an M.D. in Paediatrics from Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), Hubballi.

IFS Officer Rashmi ranks again

G. Rashmi, an Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer currently serving as the Deputy Conservator of Forests in Khordha district, Odisha, secured the 976th rank in the 2024 exam. A resident of Kanakadasanagar in Mysuru, Rashmi had previously cleared the UPSC in 2022 and was inducted into the IFS.

Rashmi is the daughter of Gangaram and Rathnamma. She completed her schooling at JSS Balajagath School and her Pre-University education at Marimallappa's College, Mysuru. She went on to earn a B.E. in Civil Engineering from SJCE (Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering), Mysuru. Rashmi has expressed her intention to continue serving in the Forest Department.

Maiden success for Vikas

V. Vikas, an engineering graduate from the National Institute of Engineering (NIE), Mysuru, has cracked the UPSC in his very first attempt, securing an outstanding 288th rank.

A native of Sagar in Shivamogga district, Vikas resides in Analekoppa Layout. He is the son of Vijayendra C. Patil, a lecturer in a Government PU College, and Mahalakshmi, a school teacher.

He completed his primary, secondary and PUC education in Sagar and Shivamogga before moving to Mysuru for his Engineering. He later pursued his M.Tech from IIT Roorkee.

K.L. Sooraj from Mysuru allotted IPS, Karnataka cadre

K.L. Sooraj

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (BCT)- K.L. Sooraj from Mysuru, who secured the 713th rank in the Union Public Service Commission's (UPSC) Civil Services Examination 2023, has been allotted the Indian Police Service (IPS) in his home cadre of Karnataka.

Born and raised in Mysuru, Sooraj completed his schooling at JSS Public School, Siddarthanagar, and Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust Educational Institutions, Alike, in Dakshina Kannada district. He earned a degree in Computer Science Engineering from Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE), Mysuru.

During his engineering studies, Sooraj was recruited through campus placement by Deloitte, Bengaluru, as a business analyst. After two years with the company, his ambition to crack the civil services exam led him to resign and dedicate himself to UPSC preparations.

In the meantime, he cleared a competitive exam and was appointed as an Assistant Central Intelligence Officer (ACIO) with the Intelligence Bureau, under the Union Home Ministry. He served in this role at Bengaluru International Airport.

With his success in the UPSC examination, Sooraj was allotted the IPS. As per the order dated Apr. 11, 2025, he has been assigned Karnataka as his home cadre and is currently undergoing training at the National Police Academy in Hyderabad.

Hailing from Virajpet in Kodagu, Sooraj is the son of K.B. Lingaraj and Geetha Raj. Residents of Siddarthanagar, Mysuru, Lingaraj retired as Assistant Commissioner in Customs Department, GST Division, while Geetha Raj is a homemaker.

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R. Lokeshwari

M.V. Nagendra Babu

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (PM&KS) - Rotary Mysore Midtown will be conferring Silicon Media Awards at a function to be held at Rotary Centre on JLB Road at 6.30 pm today.

The awards will be presented to *Star of Mysore* and *Mysuru Mithra* senior reporter M.T. Yogesh Kumar, Akashvani Announcer of Krishiranga fame R. Lokeshwari and cartoonist and Full Brighter M.V. Nagendra Babu (Banter Babu).

Club President Rtn. S. Kumara Swamy, Hon. Secretary Rtn. Elizar Milton, Award sponsors Rtn. S. Raghavendra and Rtn. M.S. Naveen Chandra and others will be present.

State-level workshop on 'Soft Skills' held at St. Joseph's First Grade College

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (KS) - The Department of Commerce and IQAC, St. Joseph's First Grade College at Jayalakshmipuram, in association with the College Development Council of University of Mysore (UoM), had organised a day-long State-level workshop on Soft Skill Enhancement titled 'Get Empowered; Get Employed' at its premises in city recently.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. K. Mantelingu, Director of College Development Council, UoM. In his keynote address, he shared a remarkable story of a woman, who despite being a mother of two, pursued her dreams with determination and became a Police Officer. Through this story, he emphasised the power of motivation, effective time management and soft skill enhancement in overcoming life's challenges and achieving success.

Rev. Fr. Edward William Saldanha, Secretary of Mysore Diocesan Educational Society (MDES), in his Presidential address, underlined the vital role of communication skills, especially in the field of commerce and business, stressing that such skills are as essential in today's competitive world.

The technical sessions featured Speakers Dr. J. Lohith, IQAC Coordinator, UoM, Dr. Hemant Gupta, Sr. Assistant Professor, ICFAI Business School, Bengaluru and Prof. D. Anand, Professor, B.N. Bahadur Institute of Management Sciences.

The workshop was aimed to help students enhance communication skills, boost confidence, develop workplace etiquette, strengthen problem-solving and decision-making skills and gain a clear understanding of industry expectations.

Rev. Fr. A. Naveen Kumar, Treasurer of MDES, H.N. Chandrashekara, Principal, R. Shilpa, HoD and Vice-Principal, K.S. Nayana, IQAC Co-ordinator, teaching and non-teaching staff and students participated in the workshop.

Weekend concerts at Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha in city

Vidu. Surabhi Pustakam

Malladi Brothers

Mysuru, Apr. 23- Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha has organised the following vocal concerts during this weekend (Apr. 26 and 27):

Apr. 26 (6 pm): T.V. Alamelu Birthday Memorial Concert sponsored by Dr. Meera Nathan and Dr. H.S. Madhavi Memorial Concert sponsored by H.R. Sundaresan. Vidu. Surabhi Pustakam will give a vocal concert with accomplished accompaniments by Vidu. C.V. Shruti on violin, Vid. Puttur Nikshith on mridanga and Vid. R. Srinidhi Koundinya on ghata.

Apr. 27 (6 pm): K.V. Murthy Memorial Concert sponsored by well-wishers. Vocal Duet by Malladi Brothers (Malladi Sreeramprasad and Malladi Ravikumar). Accompanists being Dr. Nishanth Chandran - violin, Vid. Tumkur B. Ravishankar - mridanga and Vid. Sharath Kaushik.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Gayathri Theatre **Ph: 2443568**
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K) - 4 Shows

Rajkamal Theatre **Ph: 2423554**
Odela 2 (Te) - 2 Shows; *Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)* - 2 Shows

Mahadeshwara Theatre **Mob: 99008-20093**
Odela 2 (Te) - 4 Shows

Woodlands Theatre **Ph: 2422871**
Good Bad Ugly (Ta) - 4 Shows

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te) - 4 Shows

Thibbadevi Theatre **Ph: 2452958**
Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows

Prabha Theatre **Mob: 98454-14691**
Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows

Lido Theatre **Ph: 2420885**
Kora (K) - 2 Shows; *Ricksha Chalaka (K)* - 2 Shows

Sangam Theatre **Ph: 2520494**
Vaamana (K) - 4 Shows

Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
Sikandar (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Paddington in Peru (E)	(S-1)	9.30 am, 11.50 am, 2.10 pm, 4.30 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	(S-1)	6.55 pm
Odela 2 (Te)	(S-1)	9.55 pm
Vicky Donor (H)	(S-2)	10.25 am
Sachein (Ta)	(S-2)	1 pm
Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	(S-2)	4.10 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	(S-2)	7 pm
Alappuzha Gymkhana (Ma)	(S-2)	10 pm
Sinners (E)	(S-3)	10.40 am, 7.10 pm, 10.05 pm
Ten Hours (Ta)	(S-3)	1.30 pm
Veera Chandrahasa (K)	(S-3)	4 pm
Kora (K)	(S-4)	10.25 am
Vaamana (K)	(S-4)	1.20 pm
Kesari : Chapter 2 (H)	(S-4)	4.10 pm, 7.05 pm, 9.55 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Preetiya Huccha (K)	(S-1)	11 am
Riksha Chalaka (K)	(S-1)	1.35 pm
Kora (K)	(S-1)	6.35 pm
Kadeema (K)	(S-1)	6.35 pm
Ten Hours (Ta)	(S-1)	9.15 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	(S-2)	1 pm, 6.35 pm; (S-4) 10.50 am
Odela 2 (Te)	(S-2)	3.45 pm, 9.20 pm
Veera Chandrahasa (K)	(S-3)	1 pm, 3.55 pm
Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	(S-3)	6.50 pm, 9.30 pm
Vaamana (K)	(S-4)	1.35 pm, 4.10 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	(S-4)	6.45 pm, 9.30 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Ph: 0821-230 0402

Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	:	10 am, 1.25 pm, 6.45 pm
Sinners (E)	:	10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 6.50 pm, 9.50 pm
Kesari Chapter 2 (H)	:	10.35 am, 1.30 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.15 pm
Vidyapati (K)	:	10.45 am
Paddington in Peru (E)	:	11 am, 4.20 pm, 9.40 pm
Odela 2 (Te)	:	11.05 am
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	:	12.50 pm, 10.30 pm
Sachein (Ta)	:	1.25 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	:	2.10 pm, 7.05 pm
Vaamana (K)	:	4 pm
Vicky Donor (H)	:	4.25 pm
Sikandar (H)	:	5.10 pm
Veera Chandrahasa (K)	:	7 pm
A Minecraft Movie (E-3D)	:	8.05 pm
Ten hours (Ta)	:	10.15 pm
Jaat (H)	:	10.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

Kesari Chapter 2 (H)	:	10.05 am, 1 pm, 3.55 pm, 6.50 pm, 9.45 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	:	10.15 am, 7 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	:	10.30 am, 7.15 pm
Sinners (E)	:	10.40 am, 1.35 pm, 4.05 pm, 9.30 pm
Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	:	1.15 pm, 10 pm
Paddington in Peru (E)	:	1.40 pm, 7.05 pm
Vaamana (K)	:	4.10 pm
Ten Hours (Ta)	:	4.40 pm
Kora (K)	:	10.15 pm

Story-telling workshop by TiE Mysuru

Mysuru, Apr. 23- TiE Mysuru recently conducted an engaging and impactful session as part of its Foundational Series — 'Powerful Storytelling Workshop' by Sachin Bhandary, a renowned story-teller and Founder of The Story Co. & Story Club.

The interactive workshop shed light on the art and science of narrative communication, especially in the context of business and leadership.

As Sachin says, "We're born with the gift of story-telling, but somewhere along the way, especially in boardrooms and pitch decks, we forget how to use it."

His mission is to help entrepreneurs reclaim that natural ability and harness it to build deeper, more meaningful connections with their audience, team and community. More than 90-plus participants, including founders, startup teams, educators, students and aspiring entrepreneurs, came together for the session.

From lively storytelling exercises to thought-provoking discussions, the workshop kept everyone engaged from start to finish.

***Sachin Bhandary** (left), a renowned storyteller & Founder of The Story Co. & Story Club, is seen with Bhaskar Kalale, President of TiE Mysuru.*

Sachin introduced three story formats that every entrepreneur and leader can use to strengthen their communication:

1. Origin Stories: These stories help convey the 'why' behind a venture, capturing passion, purpose and personal motivation.

2. Connection Stories: Crafted to build relatability, trust and empathy, these stories help entrepreneurs connect with customers, investors and teammates on a human level.

3. Leadership Stories: Designed to shine a light on others, these stories uplift, inspire and celebrate team members, partners or mentors who make a difference.

The audience also explored a powerful concept Sachin calls "Storyflection" — a blend of story-telling and reflection. It's a practice of pausing, observing and pulling stories from everyday life to craft messages that resonate with authenticity.

The session was highly participative, with attendees creating and sharing their own stories using the frameworks introduced. The Q&A segments were particularly engaging, sparking thoughtful discussion and personal reflections among the audience.

This event also marked a special moment for the TiE Mysuru community — the official launch of the new TiE Mysuru website: ***www.tiemysuru.org***

The brand-new site, unveiled by the TiE Mysuru Board and Charter Members, is designed to better serve members, startups and the broader entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

Earlier in his opening remarks Bhaskar Kalale, President of TiE Mysuru, emphasised the importance of continuous learning and emotional intelligence in today's entrepreneurial landscape.

Anil Kumar, Founder of Dirtyl Innovative Solutions and a member of TiE Mysuru, introduced the speaker, sharing personal anecdotes of the power of story-telling in his own journey.

Spurthi Anand, a Student Member representing GSSSIETW, was the programme anchor. Lakshmi Sanghameshwara, a Student Member from VVCE, Mysuru, proposed a vote of thanks.

EVENTS TODAY (APRIL 23)

- **BSS Vidyodaya:** Inauguration of Bhagini Sangeethotsava by Udupi Pejawar Mutt Seer and BSS Vidyodaga Chairman Sri Vishwaprasanna Teertha Swamiji and launching of Padmaja Srinivas Auditorium, Words World (State-of-the-art Library), Joy Room for Tiny Tots, Computer Lab, Math Lab and House of Chess, **5.30 pm;** Veena-Venu-Violin by Vid. Balu Masti, Vid. C.S. Keshavachandra and Vid. M. Srinidhi, School Auditorium, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Rotary Mysore Midtown:** Presentation of Rotary Mysore Midtown Silicon Media Awards to *Star of Mysore* and *Mysuru Mithra* Senior Reporter M.T. Yogesh Kumar, Akashvani Announcer of Krushiranga-fame R. Lokeshwari and cartoonist and Fullbrighter M.V. Nagendra Babu (Banter Babu); former Professor of Mizoram University Dr. K.V. Nagaraj chief guest, Rotary Centre, JLB Road, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (APRIL 24)

- **BSS Vidyodaya:** Bhagini Sangeethotsava, vocal concert by Vid. G. Ravikiran and troupe, School Auditorium, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Taruna Bharati - Two Music Concerts, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm to 8.30 pm.**

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

Kesari Chapter 2 (H)	:	10.20 am, 1.15 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	:	10.25 am, 4.20 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	:	10.30 am, 7 pm
Paddington in Peru (E)	:	11.30 am, 4.55 pm
Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	:	1.25 pm, 10 pm
Vaamana (K)	:	1.30 pm
Sinners (E)	:	1.55 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.20 pm
Vidyapati (K)	:	4.20 pm
Veera Chandrahasa (K)	:	7.20 pm
Odela 2 (Te)	:	10.30 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Kesari Chapter 2 (H)	:	9.50 am, 10.50 am, 1.45 pm, 4.40 pm 7.35 pm, 10.30 pm
Preethiya Huccha (K)	:	10.55 am
Paddington in Peru (E)	:	11.20 am, 7.45 pm
Sinners (E)	:	12.45 pm, 4.45 pm, 10.10 pm
Arjun s/o Vyjayanthi (Te)	:	1.45 pm, 9.40 pm
Ricksha Chalaka (K)	:	1.45 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	:	3.45 pm
Kora (K)	:	4.15 pm
Good Bad Ugly (Ta)	:	6.45 pm
Kadeema (K)	:	7.15 pm
Alappuzha Gymkhana (Ma)	:	10.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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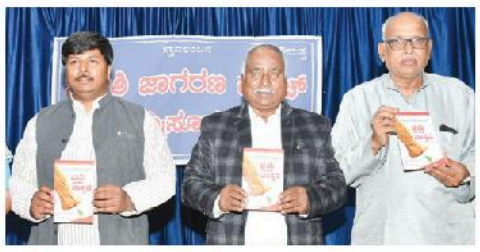
FDI benefits foreign firms more than common man

Economist Prof. B.M. Kumaraswamy speaks at Mysuru unit of Swadeshi Jagaran Manch event



Mysuru, Apr. 23- Noted economist Prof. B.M. Kumaraswamy has asserted that despite Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) playing a major role in India's industrial and infrastructure development, its benefits rarely trickle down to the common man. He was speaking after releasing the book 'Illusions and Facts' on FDI, at a programme organised by the Mysuru unit of the Swadeshi Jagaran Manch at the Institution of Engineers-India (IEI) on JLB Road on Sunday.

Prof. Kumaraswamy pointed out that the rise in FDI has failed to generate sufficient employment opportunities. He lamented the inability of Indian companies to effectively compete with foreign firms in international markets. "FDI primarily comes in two forms — Greenfield and Brownfield. While Greenfield investments lead to the establishment of new industries, Brownfield investments often result in foreign companies gaining control over existing Indian businesses. The growing trend of Brownfield investments is worrisome and the Union Government must seriously consider placing checks on foreign investments," he opined.

He further noted that the increased use of robotics and artificial intelligence in foreign enterprises is making it harder for India to achieve industrial self-reliance and technological independence, even under the 'Make in India' initiative. Expressing concern over the dominance of foreign brands in Indian markets since liberalisation began 32 years ago, Prof. Kumaraswamy remarked that foreign companies have taken over even everyday consumer products like toothpaste, soft drinks, shoe polish, cement, vehicles, TV and refrigerators.

Failed degree students can now clear arrears

Mysuru, Apr. 23 (VNS)- University of Mysore (UoM) has provided another chance for failed students to clear their examinations. Students, who have enrolled from 2004-05 academic year till 2018-19 into various courses including BA, B.Com, B.Sc, BCA, BBA/BBM, BSW and others in various University colleges and affiliated colleges can now appear for examination.

According to a press release from the University of Mysore Registrar, University will issue a notification following which the students can pay the examination fee at their respective colleges. The examination will be conducted at University of Mysore Evaluation Bhavan in Mysuru for students from Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan and Chamarajanagar districts.

"The Principals of various colleges have been instructed to collect the details of the students including their names, register numbers, course and subject among other details and submit the same to the University. The colleges have also been told to inform the students. The decision to conduct the examination in Mysuru has been taken to avoid confusion among the students," the release said.

University of Mysore has appointed retired Professor G.H. Mahadevaswamy as the Nodal Officer to conduct the examination successfully. For details, contact Mob: 90352-35245 or Ph: 0821-2419273.

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